

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 10, please amend the paragraph beginning with “In specific embodiments” as follows:

In specific embodiments, backups are taken of information residing on the primary storage system to the secondary storage system, as illustrated by Fig. 1. Data on the primary storage system 100a is sent to the secondary storage system 100b by remote copy. The primary volume (PVOL) 105a and the secondary volume (SVOL) 105b of remote mirror 130 are kept identical (contains the same data) by operation of a remote mirror 130 existing there between. The data sent from the primary storage system 100a is also copied to the secondary volume (SVOL) 106b, which is the secondary volume of the local mirror 140b residing within the secondary storage system 100b. This means that ordinarily, the three volumes, volume 105a, 105b, and 106b are identical. When a backup is taken, the local mirror 140b ~~104b~~ is split, under control of the host 110a or otherwise. The column 106b holds a point in time backup. This technique for performing system backup, can have in specific embodiments, benefits such as keeping remote mirror 130 in operation. The remote mirror 130 is usually used for disaster recovery purpose, where the mirrors must be always in-sync state. If one breaks a remote mirror to take a backup, and disaster happens during this out-of-sync condition, then one cannot recover data at the present time. Further, in some embodiments, a user can take backups of more than one generation by setting up two or more secondary volumes (SVOLs) for one primary volume (PVOL). For example, in Fig. 1, one can have more than one volume(s) 106b, for a single volume 105b in some embodiments.

On page 14, please amend the paragraph beginning with “In a step 620” as follows:

In a step 620, applications that run on host 110a ~~are~~ and use volume 105a are stopped. Then volume 105a is ~~se~~ dismounted so that host 110a cannot write data to it.

On page 15, please amend the paragraph beginning with “In step 650” as follows:

In a step 650, the storage system 100b copies all pending data on the secondary primary volume (SPVOL) 105b ~~106b~~ to secondary volume (SVOL) 106b ~~105b~~, according to pending bitmap 360.